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## Hosea 14 Israel's Return And The Lord's Restoration Fulfilled



By Dan Maines

## Hosea 14 Israel's Return And The Lord's Restoration Fulfilled

### Introduction

† Hosea closes with a call to return, showing that even after judgment, God's desire is restoration (Hosea 13:16).

† This isn't future, it's fulfilled in Christ before the destruction of Jerusalem when the door of mercy was still open to that

generation (Luke 21:22).

† God calls for repentance through words, not ritual, proving He has always desired the heart over sacrifice (Hosea 6:6).

### **Hosea 14:1-3**

Return, Israel, to the Lord your God,  
For you have stumbled because of your wrongdoing.  
Take words with you and return to the Lord.  
Say to Him, Take away all wrongdoing  
And accept what is good,  
So that we may present the fruit of our lips.  
Assyria will not save us,  
We will not ride on horses;  
Nor will we say again, Our god,  
To the work of our hands;  
For in You the orphan finds mercy.

† Their fall was caused by their own sin, not by any failure on God's part (Hosea 13:9).

† Taking words shows repentance is confession, fulfilled in the new covenant where praise replaces sacrifice (Hebrews 13:15).

† Trust in Assyria failed, exposing dependence on nations, fulfilled when Rome destroyed Jerusalem despite all alliances (Luke 19:43-44).

† Rejecting idols shows true repentance, fulfilled in those who turned to God through Christ (1 Thessalonians 1:9).

† The orphan finding mercy reveals God's compassion, fulfilled in the gospel extended to all who return (James 1:27).

### **Hosea 14:4-7**

I will heal their apostasy,  
I will love them freely,

Because My anger has turned away from them.  
I will be like the dew to Israel;  
He will blossom like the lily,  
And he will take root like the cedars of Lebanon.  
His shoots will sprout,  
And his beauty will be like the olive tree,  
And his fragrance like the cedars of Lebanon.  
Those who live in his shadow  
Will again raise grain,  
And they will blossom like the vine.  
His renown will be like the wine of Lebanon.

† God promises healing, showing restoration comes from Him, fulfilled in Christ's work (1 Peter 2:24).

† His anger being turned away points to the removal of wrath through Christ before AD 70 (Romans 5:9).

† The imagery of dew and growth shows covenant renewal, fulfilled in the church bearing fruit (John 15:5).

† The olive tree imagery connects to Israel, fulfilled in the remnant and those grafted in (Romans 11:17).

† Those returning under His shadow shows gathering and protection, fulfilled in Christ calling His people (Matthew 23:37).

† Revival as grain and vine shows new life, fulfilled in the kingdom established in that generation (Colossians 1:13).

### **Hosea 14:8-9**

Ephraim will say, What more have I to do with idols?  
It is I who answer and watch over him.  
I am like a luxuriant juniper;  
From Me comes your fruit.  
Whoever is wise, let him understand these things;  
Whoever is discerning, let him know them.

For the ways of the Lord are right,  
And the righteous will walk in them,  
But wrongdoers will stumble in them.

† Ephraim rejecting idols shows true repentance, fulfilled in those who turned to God through Christ (1 Thessalonians 1:9).

† Fruit comes from God alone, fulfilled in Christ as the source of life (John 15:4-5).

† Wisdom is required to understand, fulfilled in those who recognized the time of fulfillment (Matthew 24:15).

† The Lord's ways are right, confirming His judgment and restoration were just (Luke 21:22).

† The separation of righteous and wrongdoers was fulfilled in that generation, believers preserved and others judged (Matthew 13:49-50).

## **Historical References**

† Josephus records the collapse and false hopes of the Jews before Jerusalem fell, confirming Hosea's warnings (Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 5-6).

† Eusebius records that believers fled Jerusalem before its destruction, showing those who walked wisely (Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 3.5).

† Tacitus confirms the corruption and downfall of the Jewish system, aligning with Hosea's message (Tacitus, Histories 5.12-13).

## **How It Applies To Us Today**

† God still calls people to return through repentance, not religious performance.

† Restoration comes from God alone, not from systems or human effort.

† Idolatry must be rejected, whatever form it takes today.

† Fruitfulness only comes through Christ.

† Those who walk in His ways stand, those who reject Him fall.

## **Q & A Appendix**

**Q** What does it mean to take words and return?

**A** It means repentance is expressed through confession and prayer, not sacrifice, as shown in Hebrews 13:15.

**Q** How was God's anger turned away?

**A** Through Christ's sacrifice before AD 70, removing wrath for those in Him, as seen in Romans 5:9.

**Q** What does the growth imagery represent?

**A** It represents covenant restoration and spiritual life fulfilled in Christ, as seen in John 15:5.

**Q** Who walked in the Lord's ways?

**A** The faithful remnant who followed Christ and escaped judgment, as seen in Luke 21:20-21.

**Q** What does it mean that wrongdoers will stumble?

**A** It refers to those who rejected God and were judged in that generation, as seen in Matthew 23:36.

**† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

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## Source Index

† Hosea 14

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 5-6; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 3.5; Tacitus, Histories 5.12-13

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